constraints of resources, the Railways are not going in for the creation of any more of new Divisions, for the present.

**Child abuse**

1813. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that according to a UNICEF report child abuse has been on the increase in the country; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to meet the situation and minimise child abuse in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) In the Conference Report 'Children First' on the SAARC Conference on South Asian Children held in New Delhi on 27—29 October, 1986 (which is not a document of the UNICEF), a reference has been made to increasing child abuse in the countries of the region. There is also a reference in the UNICEF Annual Report 1987 to the rising incidence of child abuse in the developing world. These references are not focused on India as such.

(b) On form of child abuse that is increasing in the incidence of children at work. Several Steps have been taken to deal with the problems of child labour as shown below:

(i) The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act was passed in December, 1986 to prohibit the employment of children below 14 years in certain specified occupations and processes and to regulate the employment of children in other permitted employments.

(ii) The National Child Labour Policy was formulated in August 1987, with the object of bringing certain facilities to children who are removed from work and children who work in permitted employment. These facilities could be in the shape of non-formal education, health care, vocational training, recreation facilities and raising of the income of the families of child workers through poverty of the income of the families of child workers through poverty amelioration programmes.

(iii) Voluntary organisation in different parts of the country are given financial assistance for taking up projects to benefit child workers.

The Government of India has also enacted the Juvenile Justice Act, 1986 to check other forms of child abuse. The Act provides for punishment for offences in respect of juveniles, like employment of juveniles for begging, giving intoxicating liquor or narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances to juveniles and cruelty or exploitation of juveniles.

**Integrated Child Development Service in Rajasthan**

1814. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the amount allocated for the Integrated Child Development Service Programmes in Rajasthan during 1987-88; and

(b) what are the names of districts which have been covered under this programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) No specific year-